QSO Today EP 28 Eddie Leighton ZS6BNE

When Eddie Leighton, ZS6BNE, created 'shack in a sack' as a working concept for portable operation, in South Africa's great outdoors, for amateur radio activity and contests, he had no idea it would become an international amateur radio phenomena he renamed RaDAR, or rapid deployment amateur radio.

RaDAR, could be amateur radio's 'iron man' contest that combines outdoor activity with amateur radio. Eddie joins Eric, 4Z1UG, in his QSO Today.

www.qsotoday.com/podcasts/zs6bne

Podcast Link: http://goo.gl/Ula3RL

iTunes Store: http://goo.gl/CvLNmV

Stitcher: http://goo.gl/uhf1XZ

South African Radio League National Field Day

The South African Radio League National Field Day will take place between 10:00 UTC on Saturday 14 February and 10:00 UTC on Sunday 15 February with CW, phone, RTTY and PSK activity on 160 to 10 metres, excluding the WARC bands.

Class A is a Field Station Multi-operator; this means YOUR Club at the local campsite, nature reserve, etc. This is what the Bloemfontein ARC is going to do on the lawn at CBC School with tents and caravans.

lass B is Field Station Multi-operator QRP; the same as above, but your radio(s) work at 5 watts or less.

Class C is Field Station – Single Operator; when your Club members ignore you. Class D is Single Operator QRP; the same as above, but your radio(s) work at 5 watts or less.

Class E is Ultra Light Portable (no, not the weight of the operator). Light weight self contained stations, operating QRP or low power such as RaDAR, Summits on the Air, Parks on the Air (game and nature reserves), Islands on the Air, Heritage sites, etc. The operator must carry the entire station, antenna included, to the operating site. The distance carried must not be less than 1 km.

Then Class F is General stations. This is for radio amateurs who may not leave the house because the wife has said NO, or you are recovering from an illness or both your legs are in plaster or you are suffering from the dreaded luigi. Visiting mothers-out-law – refer to Class A to E.

The exchange is a realistic RS or RST report, the number of transmitters, Field Day operating class and Provincial abbreviation. 553AFS = signal report, 3 transmitters, Field Station Multi-operator in the Free State. 5991EKN = signal report, 1 transmitter, Ultra light portable in Kwazulu Natal. 59(9)1DX = use this for DX stations worked.

Your log sheet must be sent by e-mail to zs4bfn@gmail.com and that must be by midnight on Sunday 22 February. A photo or photos of the station in action (JPG format) must accompany each log entry – antennas,

guys and girls operating the radio. NOT a selfie of you in front of a radio! The Field Day Excel spreadsheet is available from www.zs4bfn.co.za/Downloads.asp. Find the rules on page 22 of the 2015 SARL Blue Book.

Ham Radio Field Day
Communicate, Have Fun,
Slap Some Mosquitoes!

South African Radio League Youth Sprint

This is a fun activity to celebrate the Youth and to promote contacts between young radio amateurs in Southern African countries. Call "CQ Youth Day" on Saturday 21 February from 08:00 to 10:00 UTC on 40 metres (7 063 to 7 100 and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz). The exchange is a RS report and the operator's age.

Contacts between stations in the age group 25 and younger are worth 5 points; contacts between stations in the under 25 group and over 26 group is worth 2 points and contacts between stations in the age group 26 and older are worth 1 point.

Log sheets must be submitted by 28 February by e-mail to youthsprint@sarl.org.za. The age of the operator must be shown on the summary sheet. All the logs received will be entered into a draw for a Student Membership of the South African Radio League. Certificates will be awarded for all logs that are submitted correctly.

South African Radio League Digital Contest

The aim is to establish as many contacts as possible between radio

February 2015
2 – World Wetlands day
5 – HABEX-10 Mission meeting at ERB Club house
7 – SARL@HOME at the NARC
7 and 8 – AWA CW Day; Midmar Mile Swim, PMB
11 to 25 – Rhodes Stopesitfees (ZS2)
13 February - International Radio Day
14 – Valentine's Day
14 and 15 – SARL National Field Day; Berry Festival, Magoebaskloof (ZS6)
15 February - closing date for PEARS VHF/UHF logs
18 – Ash Wednesday
18 and 19 - The 2015 Sub-Sahara Spectrum Management Conference, Johannesburg
19 to 21 – Dusi Canoe Marathon
21 – SARL Youth Contest
22 – SARL Digital Contest
27 – National Milk Tart Day
27 and 28 – SARL Council Strategic Meeting, Jhb; Clarens Craft Beer Festival
27 Feb to 1 March – Garden Route 300 Mountain Bike Race

March 2015
1 - SARL Hamnet Contest
7 and 8 RSGB Commonwealth Contest
8 - International Women's Day; Cape Argus PnP Cycle Tour
14 - SARL@Home
14 and 15 - Africa All Modes Contest;
17 - St Patrick's Day
20 - Autumn Equinox; SARL 90 Open Day for ICASA and the Media
21 - Human Rights Day; Hindi New Year; SARL 90 Open Day; Oude Kraal Mutton and Beerfest
21 and 22 - SARL VHF/UHF Contest
22 – World Water Day
23 - World Meteorological day
25 - Inland Schools close
28 and 29 – CQ WPX SSB
29 – Palm Sunday

amateurs in Southern Africa using the PSK31 / RTTY mode. The contest is open to all radio amateurs in Southern Africa. The contest takes place from 13:00 UTC to 16:00 UTC on Sunday 22 February on 80, 40 and 20 metres. A station may be contacted twice on each band once on RTTY, once on PSK31 and the exchange is a RST plus a sequential serial number starting at 001. Logs must be submitted by 1 March by e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za

Best Communication Award 2014
(by DxCoffee - Press Release) [Edited]:

After analysing all the DXpeditions that were conducted in 2014, our preference for the DXpedition that stood out the most, regarding communication with the amateur community, goes to FT5ZM, the DXpedition to Amsterdam Island, that operated in January/February 2014.

We have especially appreciated their website, www.amsterdamdx.org, a site made to satisfy any curiosity that one could have about FT5ZM.

The information given ranged from describing the island itself, a place little known by the general public, to the long crossing in the Indian ocean starting from Western Australia, to the frequent updates during the operations.

In the space where you could ask questions to the pilots (contact us), you could also find a section with the "frequently asked questions," pointing to other important ways of communication: Facebook and Twitter. Of course, there were several pictures too.

Again this year, it did not seem fair to ignore other DXpeditions that have distinguished themselves for their communication.

We have thought of five "special mentions" that we are listing below in chronological order, as we do not want to rank them from best to worst.

We are not giving scores here, but we are simply taking our stand from our impressions in the scope of communication, where you cannot make clear cut comparisons.

A35V and A35X for fascinating us with their diary and the final account published on www.a35va35x.com. We have appreciated the commitment of these two operators (yes, only two!) who have adopted a simpler style as opposed to the professional one of the big DXpeditions, but nevertheless just as captivating.

YW5D, Tortuga Island. This Venezuelan team did not have their own website for this short (four days) DXpedition, but have stood out for the great use of social networks and for spreading information through several web magazines.

VK9MT, VK9DLX, FT4TA, for realising comprehensive and updated websites, they are www.vk9mt.com, www.lordhowe2014.org and www.tromelin2014.com/en.

The award presentation will take place in Florence, Italy at the DxCoffee Party on 12 April, hosted by the Florence HamFest. To know more about this nice event, click on www.florencehamfest.com.

Special thanks to the DX University, for making it possible to realise this award.

Fabrizio Valdirosa. IU0BMP. Award Manager Best Communication Award
Pasquale La Gamba. IZ8IYX. Chief Editor DxCoffee.com

Bouvet, 3Y/B

(Press Release #3 - Bouvet 2016 Project - an update and a reflection on DXpedition funding). Mark, ON4WW, sent out the following press release [edited]:

Dear DXers,

Are you as excited as I am, being able to work K1N Navassa, the #2 Most Wanted Entity? What a thrill and what a fine job the operators are doing under such difficult con-

ditions! With already almost 23 000 unique call signs in the log, there will be many happy DX-campers! With Navassa being activated, Bouvet Island will be #2 on the Most Wanted Entity list. Time for an update on my plans.

I was going to wait with an update until I visited the boat owner to hopefully finalize the financial matters and contract (within a few weeks, if there is sufficient funding). However, a current discussion on Topband Reflector about DXpedition funding, has intrigued my interest and I would like to share this with you. Hence this pre-update.

As you know by now, for this specific one-man project I need to know upfront what financially is possible. Many of you, the deserving DXers, have responded graciously. Meaning, the Bouvet 2016 project is at €133 000 of the needed €250 000 euro. Wow and thank you.

The following remarks on Topband Reflector intrigued my interest - quote "Some of my friends go on these trips (three are on Navassa) and all of them complain that while EU hams are very demanding, they do not do much to contribute to the cost."

Followed by "It appears to be the case that NA finances the big trips and EU gets the Q's. That needs to be ironed out."

Followed by "Someone did a more extensive analysis of several DXpeditions maybe 2 or 3 years ago. Basically the same conclusion. Typically NA puts up the largest percentage of the funds but doesn't get that percentage in Q's."

Followed by back and forth arguments from Europeans and North Americans, too long to put here

Followed by "The point that (yyy) is making, he did it very well, is that EU as a group should contribute more than what they are presently doing. And he is right."

Followed by "The last time I saw numbers several years ago the US had something like 530 000 licensed hams which I think was more than all other countries together (or close to it). No way to know what percentage are DXers and possibly concerned with working a particular DXpedition. However, it might be more relevant if the percentages of financing were percentages of DXers that contributed. It may be still skewed of course."

Followed by a final and important remark (to silence this quite animated discussion) by my buddy Don, N1DG, "The number of US hams isn't the issue, it's the number of DXers working each DXpedition. And the better number to look at is uniques. My Dayton presentation is here http://www.ncdxf.org/misc/N1DG-DXpeditioncosts-Dayton2012.ppt. My NCDXF article is here on pages 5 through 7 http://www.ncdxf.org/newsletters/2012-AUTUMN.pdf. Since I did the research, NCDXF has received updated information from its grantees that has not changed the results presented." Unquote.

I had a closer look at the outstanding analysis Don made, especially the part on Southern Oceans (Bouvet!). To everyone who has not read his analysis, it is important to understand the funding mechanisms behind the most difficult Most Wanted Entities, do read Don's analysis, please.

The following is quite an eye opener and catcher of the PowerPoint presentation:

- Financial transparency rarely done on DXpeditions. It should be.
- If more of the ham community knew the costs and risks involved in big ticket DXpeditions, fund raising might be easier.
- DX Foundations and Clubs cannot continue to do all the heavy lifting.
- Not all DXpeditions are alike. One size does not fit all in donations.

Bullets 1, 3 and 4 are pertinent to the Bouvet 2016 project. Without having seen Don's presentation (until yesterday), I knew this was the way to go for my project:

1. Why on earth should I have secrets about YOUR finances (in case I couldn't find a single corporate sponsor)?

3. I tried to find a single sponsor outside the ham community, to try and get the financial burden away from the Foundations, Clubs and individual DXers. I failed so far, but I tried. Someone else will do better.

4. Why would Bouvet have to be done by a large group, if it can be done by one person? Is this written in stone? Not all DXpeditions are alike… indeed, they are not.

Bullet number 2 is addressed to most of us. And is somehow related to the discussion on Topband Reflector. Let us have a look at some of Don's figures.

For the Southern Oceans DXpeditions, 63% of the funding comes from team members. DX Foundations/Clubs make up for 25% of the funding, individual DXers 12%. Of all QSOs made, 43% were by Europe, 36% by North America, 16% by Asia and 5% by the Rest of the World.

For the VP8ORK DXpedition, 80% of the funding came out of the USA (DXpeditionners, Foundations/Clubs, individual DXers). An impressive figure. As the team members were mostly Americans, this partially explains the high number of 80% funding by USA (63% > team members).

There is an additional explanation, albeit also being partial. The donation to DX Foundations in the USA is Tax Deductible, and makes it more attractive to donate, compared to other countries where this system is not in place.

Personally, I do believe that indeed the Americans are donating proportionally more than other countries/continents. Mind you, this is a personal opinion, not backed up by facts (as Don says, DXpeditions should be more transparent. I have no means to verify whether the figures in the presentation are correct, neither can Don - these figures were handed over in good faith, and I base my assumption on that fact, thus being factually subjective).

There is no good or bad in this, whether the Americans donate more than others do, or the Europeans donate less than others do. Moreover, we have no objective means to verify who donates most. It is only the finance accountant of an expedition who has that information (I have been on two major DXpeditions; I have never seen the financial figures of those. This is no criticism it is a fact).

We can and should be very grateful these DXpeditions take place thanks to the combined effort of DXpeditionners, DX Foundations/Clubs and individual DXers, in whatever gradation they are able to donate. It gets ugly (as happened on Topband Reflector) when people get personal and start accusing each other across continents of 'this or that party not donating enough to my personal likings'.

Let me give you some of the Bouvet 2016 figures (not taking into account the $100 000 from the angel contributor).

The total number of individual DXers having given donation intentions so far, is made up by 51% European DXers, 42% North Americans, 3% by people from Asia and 4% by people from the Rest of the World. The total amount of donation intentions is made up by 57% from Europe, 29% from North America, 2% Asia and 12% by the Rest of the World.

For the DX Foundations/Clubs: 43% are out of Europe, 57% out of North America. No Foundations/Clubs from other continents stepped forward. The amount of donation intentions by Foundations/Clubs: 67% Europe, 33% North America.

If we combine the amounts of donation intentions made by both individual DXers and DX Foundations/Clubs: 60% Europe, 30% North America, 10% Rest of the World.

Perhaps a bit strange when you first look at it, this does not relate to Don's figures whatsoever. As always, there must be a reason. Here are some I can think of:

- For the one-man project there is no 63% paid by DXpedition members
- North American hams/Clubs tell me: we donate through the major DX Foundations, they will sponsor Bouvet 2016
- NCDXF has opted not to come forward (which takes away a big chunk of the North American support)
- I am a European (that is meant to be a joke!)
- (More clever people than me will find other reasons)…
  To conclude:
- Figures (and certainly percentages) can reveal a lot of stuff, one way or

the other. In the end, it is the absolute figure that counts: is there enough money at hand to activate a 'rare one'?

- Kindly stop the mud wrestling about who is donating most. There are probably reasons beyond our knowledge as to why the figures are what they are. If we even know the real figures at all.

One more thing about NCDXF. I knew if I had their support, others would follow suit. Bouvet 2016 would be a fact by now.

The reason given for not funding Bouvet 2016: it is the policy not to support one-man DXpeditions. Fair enough of course, I can live with that, but it makes my endeavour incredibly more difficult. Probably to the point where the one-man concept comes to a halt.

For those of you who read Don's .pdf file: no way there will ever be a future expedition to Bouvet for less than the one-man project's budget of $280 000 (the dollar/euro rate keeps swinging, you may have seen another figure in the past). Count a minimum of $600 000 for a large group. Averaging 74 000 QSOs per DXpedition in the Southern Oceans (per Don's figures). My target: 100 000 Qs, with lots and lots of unique call signs in the log. And lots of happy 9-banders as well. Propagation and other circumstances willing, I know I can make more than 100 000 QSOs. Substantially more.

I understand some of you still have reserves because of the safety of one man being on Bouvet. Believe me I do have my limits concerning safety (I would never board a space shuttle, never). For Bouvet, I have substantial logistical, medical and safety measures backup.

Some of you have reserves because there will be a large group going to Bouvet in 2016. So far, I have not commented much on this, but as I get more and more people telling me "Too bad the 3Y0F DXpedition is at the same time", let me tell you this: there is no other group going to Bouvet in 2016. There are no operators nor funding for 3Y0F. I was hoping someone else would bring you this news, but as nobody has done so far, and as I feel it is hampering my endeavour, here it is. Perhaps Alex will succeed in another year, but not in the 2015-2016 time frame.

I received a radio license with a Bouvet call sign from the Norwegian Communications Agency. Perhaps a bit premature, but better early than not, I suppose. No, I will not yet tell you what the call sign is. I have my reasons to differ from my usual transparency policy.

When I listen to the K1N pileups (police and DQRMers), I ask myself, "do you really want to go to Bouvet?" Yes. I envision fun for everyone, for 3 months. With or without the silly police and DQRMers. For me it is all about fun (it is a hobby!), to give something back to the DX community (from which I received so much joy over the years) and activate Bouvet in the cheapest possible way, giving an opportunity to get as many unique DXers in the log as possible.

Unless another angel contributor shows up or the Board of Directors of NCDXF changes its mind, this project may very well come to a halt under its current format.

I hope to bring some good news in the near future. In case not, as always there is a plan B (which you will also like). In case plan A and B fail, there is plan C: someone else will activate Bouvet, but not in 2016.

If you are able to, and would like to contribute to this project, kindly let me know your donation intentions via e-mail to bouvet2016@telenet.be (just the amount and your call sign). (I suppose in nowadays terminology we can call this 'DXpedition Crowd Funding') You do not have to pay now. Only if the project officially goes forward, a PayPal account will be opened. You will be informed whether or not the project goes forward. For those of you who contacted me in the past and did not get a reply from me, please resend your mail (so far I have answered all e-mails).

73 – Mark, ON4WW

PS: I will not engage in a polemic about 'who donates most', the above is just for your info, not for further discussions.

KP1, Navassa

(Press Release by DokuFunk). Wolf Harranth, OE1WHC, from the Amateur Radio Section of ORF (Austrian Broadcasting Corporation) and the Documentary Archives Radio Communications/QSL Collection, have sent OPDX the following Press Release, dated 13:00 UTC 9 February [edited]:

"A Sat-Phone interview with Glenn Johnson, W0GJ, co-team leader of the current K1N Navassa DXpedition" - In an exclusive interview for Vienna-based Documentary Archive Radio Communications (DokuFunk), Glenn sums up the team's experience so far, gives some advice on how to cooperate, and discloses all plans for the remaining days of operation. The audio file is available at http://www.dokufunk.org/navassa-e

In short, Glenn states in the interview that the K1N operation will continue, but on Friday, they will start closing down. The team will start by sending their unneeded supplies back to Jamaica. On Saturday, the K1N operations will still be on the air, but some of the personnel will begin to leave the island. All radio equipment will remain on the island until daybreak Sunday, where K1N operations will then go QRT.

VK0EK Heard Island DXpedition

(Press Release). Richard, KY6R, writes, "Heard Island Now the Longest Inactive Entity on the DXCC List!" No other entity in the Top 10 lists has been inactive longer than Heard Island! Heard Island was last activated in 1997, so that was 18 years ago.

Navassa is on the air now, Bouvet was activated in 2008, North Korea in 2002, South Sandwich and South Georgia in 2002, Crozet in 2009, Scarborough Reef in 2007, Tromelin in 2014, Kingman Reef in 2000, Palmyra in 2005, Pratas in 2003, Juan de Nova/Europa in 2003.

Heard Island is the "next up" as far as top 10 Most Wanted entities in the DXCC Program's entity list. After K1N is over, Heard Island will rise up to #4 in the DX Publications Most Wanted List – but this is of course always subject to

change due to those who participate in the poll each year - see DXPUB_MOST_WANTED at http://www.dxpub.net/MOST-WANTED-SURVEY.html. And will be #5 in the Clublog Most Wanted List – and this also changes based on those who upload their log files - see ClubLog_most_wanted at http://www.clublog.org/mostwanted.php

The DX Publications survey was done in October 2014 and since then, Tromelin and now Navassa have been activated. Only Navassa affects the Heard Island position in this survey and in fact in the Clublog list.

While both of these "surveys" are subject to all kinds of variables, DXpedition leaders do look at these when considering where they might go next – so they are useful. And they are fun for DXers to "dream and scheme" as far as thinking about that next big ATNO!

VP8/G & VP8/SS, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands

(Press Release). Dear friends of the DX Community,
The Intrepid-DX Group announced our plans to activate South Sandwich and South Georgia in mid-December. With the activation of Navassa, these Islands become the #3 and #8 most wanted entities worldwide.

The activation of these two rare islands will be very expensive. The 14 team members are contributing $210 000 towards the $425 000 total cost of the DXpedition. The team has a critical decision to make. We have a non-refundable deposit of $54 000 due to pay for our vessel charter.

We fully intend to go forward with our plans however; we need indications from the global DX Community that you support our plans.

While we are pleased with the support of some individuals and a few clubs so far, we are now asking those of you who have not yet done so to please consider donating to our fund, or pledge a donation. We ask that the DX Clubs and Associations of the global DX community lend us their support.

We must feel confident that we can successfully raise enough funds for this exciting endeavour before we can commit to the non-refundable charter deposit.

You can see how to make a donation at http://www.intrepid-dx.com/vp8/sponsors.php

If you cannot donate at this time, but wish to make a pledge, please let us know intrepiddxgroup@gmail.com. If you wish your donation to be US tax deductible, consider making a directed donation through the Northern California DX Foundation http://www.ncdxf.org

Without significant support from the global DX Community, we will not be able to go forward with our plans.

Sincerely, the Intrepid-DX Group VP8/S and VP8/G Team

Cabrillo Opt-Out tag for certificates

CQ World Wide http://cqww.com/ has added a Cabrillo Opt-Out tag for certificates http://wwrof.org/cabrillo/cabrillo-specification-v3/. After the CERTIFICATE: tag, simply add YES (the default) or NO. Since one of the biggest expenses of running a contest is the printing and mailing of paper certificates, this will help the contest make better use of available resources. Not all sponsors support this tag yet. Downloadable electronic format certificates are not expected to be affected by this tag. Thanks Randy, K5ZD, CQ Worldwide Contest Director.

Word to the Wise

As log-checking reports start appearing from the autumn contests, the term *Unique+1* sometimes comes up. A unique+1 is a call that is (a) "one off" from a unique call and (b) is a call of someone who was active in the contest. If you claimed contact with N9RU, and no one else in the contest worked N9RU, it is a unique. If N9RV was active in the contest, that is a unique+1. N9RD could also be considered a U+1 if active. From the Contest University Glossary by Pat, N9RV

http://contestuniversity.com/attachments/Contesting_Terminology.pdf

A noise-cancelling system

This YouTube video by Mike WB6DJI shows how a noise-cancelling system can make a big improvement when properly configured and used https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MU7jhCPhaM&feature=youtu.be. He uses the NCC-1 Noise Cancelling Controller with a TS-990S transceiver. The main antenna is a Hex Beam and the noise-sensing antenna is a short piece of wire. The waterfall display adds a strong visual element to the presentation. He uses the system to knock down power-line noise and RFI from a nearby plasma TV.

Woodpeckers

Climbing a woodpecker? In a way. This 20-minute video captures the view as the climber summits the famous Chernobyl antenna of the Over-The-Horizon woodpecker radar. www.youtube.com/watch?v=YeLjJXvtmxo

A smartphone discovery

Dave, WA8AXF, reports a smartphone discovery on his Samsung Galaxy. "The settings menu slows the user to customize the vibration pattern for the ring tone when the phone is set to vibrate. You customize the pattern by tapping on the screen and immediately I thought, "Morse code!" and my vibrate ring tone is now "CQ CQ CQ"!"

Rope Tricks

Kirk, K4RO, has learned some rope tricks when it comes to keeping his 40 metre wire Yagi in the air. "Several years ago I started using the rope anchoring method pictured in these photos http://k4ro.net/Tree_Anchors/.

There is a continuous loop to a pulley at the top of each tree. The antenna rope is attached to the loop via a third pulley, which provides even more flexibility. The springs are strong enough to hold the antenna in shape, but have enough stretch to survive windstorms. The ropes ride effortlessly along the pulleys. No repairs have been necessary since using this system. The expense was well worth

it to me, as it's has eliminated many hours of frustrating repair work every season."

The business end of K4RO's halyard-and-pulley system showing the spring between the pulley and the tree attachment point (Photo by K4RO)

Beverage low-band receiving antenna

If you want some serious reading on the Beverage low-band receiving antenna, there is a great list of references at the bottom of the antenna's Wikipedia page http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beverage_antenna.

This reference has also provided a number of measurements http://www.nrcdxas.org/articles/BevAnt0876.pdf.
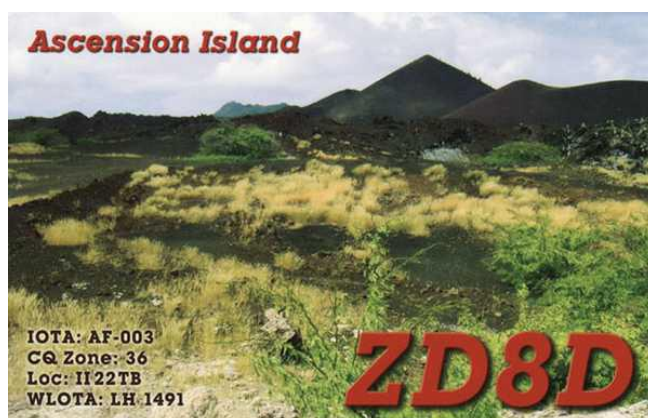
A concentrated tutorial on impedance matching

Myron, WVØH, found a concentrated tutorial on impedance matching showing that you can reduce your antenna system to an impedance, which can then be matched using basic design tools http://www.qsl.net/va3iul/Impedance_Matching/Impedance_Matching.pdf

Precise and accurate measurements

If you want to make precise and accurate measurements of resistance, inductance and capacitance, you will want to read this *Impedance Measurement Handbook* from Agilent http://cp.literature.agilent.com/litweb/pdf/5950-3000.pdf

Ascension Island

IOTA: AF-003
CQ Zone: 36
Loc: II22TB
WLOTA: LH 1491

ZD8D

African Islands

IOTA frequencies
CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz
SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Canary Islands, EE8. Operator Felipe, NP4Z, will once again be active as EE8Z from the Los Chachos Contest Club during the ARRL International DX SSB Contest on 7 and 8 March as Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via N4AO or LoTW.

Zanzibar Island, 5H, AF-032. Carlo, IK6CAC, and YL Elvira, IV3FSG, will be active as 5H1OC and 5H1ES, respectively from Zanzibar Island between 18 February and 11 March. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. They are there as voluntary operators of the Informatici Senza Frontiere, so their activity will be limited to their free time (a Humanitarian DXpedition). QSL 5H1OC via IK6CAC and 5H1ES via IK3GES. Depending of their access to have Internet, their logs will be online, either at www.ik6cac.com and ClubLog's OQRS in real time or when Interet is reachable. Logs will be uploaded also to LoTW, eQSL, ClubLog and HamQTH.

Kerguelen Island, FT5X. Word has it that a major DXpedition to Kerguelen Island (IOTA AF-048) will take place sometime November/December this year. More details will be forthcoming.

African DX

Rwanda, 9X. Carl, SM6CPY, will be active as 9X0PY from Kigali between 10 February and 2 March. Activity will be on 20 to 10 metres, possibly 160 to 40 metres. QSL via his home call sign, by the Bureau or direct (with 3 USDs and SAE).

The Gambia, C5. Luc, F5RAV, will once again be active as C5LT from Kololi between 20 and 27 October. Activity will be on 40 to 10 metres using SSB, RTTY and possibly CW. Operations will also include the CQ WW DX SSB Contest on 24 and 25 October, possibly with a shorter call sign. QSL direct only via F5RAV.

Kenya, 5Z. Bertrand, DF3FS, and Oli, DL9OLI, will be active holiday-style from Diani Beach between 16 February and 8 March, signing 5Z4/home calls. Activity will be on 80 to 10 m on CW (DF3FS) and SSB (DL9OLI). QSL via home calls, direct or via the Bureau. Visit http://www.df3fs.de/5z-2015/index.html

History this week
Starting Monday 8 February 2015

1720 - Edmond Halley was appointed the second Astronomer Royal of England
1752 - The Pennsylvania Hospital, the first in America, opened in Philadelphia
1870 – The US weather service (later Weather Bureau) was authorised under the direction of the Signal Corps
1877 – The first news dispatch was sent in the US, using Alexander G. Bell's new invention, the telephone
1895 – A French patent was issued for the Cinématographe, a combined motion-picture camera and projector
1897 - F. Braun published in Annalen der Physik und Chemie information of his "Braun tube," the first cathode-ray oscilloscope
1978 – Texas Instruments patented the first "micro on a chip"

Contest Calendar
This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 9 to 16 February 2015

NAQCC CW Sprint
01:30 - 03:30 UTC 11 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: Each state, province or country once
Key Type Mult: 2 × if straight key, 1,5 × if bug, 1 x if other
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points × total mults × key type mult
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 14 February 2015
Upload log at: http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html
Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA
Find rules at:
http://naqcc.info/sprint201502.html

QRP Fox Hunt
02:00 - 03:30 UTC 11 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 40 m Only
Classes: Single Op – fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 12 February 2015
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 11 February and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 12 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 14 February 2015
Post log summary at:
http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, Data
20:00 - 21:30 UTC 11 February
Mode: RTTY, PSK
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RST and serial no
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC February 18, 2015
Upload log at:
http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:

http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/r80mcc.shtml

NCCC RTTY Sprint
01:45 - 02:15 UTC 13 February
Mode: RTTY
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 15 February 2015
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

QRP Fox Hunt
02:00 - 03:30 UTC 13 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op – fox or hound
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC February 14, 2015
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 13 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: serial no, name and QTH
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band

Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 15 February 2015
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest
00:00 UTC 14 February to 23:59 UTC 15 February
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high - tribander or rookie; Single Op Single Band - QRP, low or high - tribander or rookie; Multi-One - low or high; Multi-Two; Multi-Unlimited
Max operating hours: Single Op: 30 hours, off times of at least 60 minutes; Multi-Op: 48 hours
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RST and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country on 20, 15 and 10 m; 2 points per QSO with same country on 80 or 40 m; 2 points per QSO with different countries on same continent on 20, 15 and 10 m; 4 points per QSO with different countries on same continent on 80 or 40 m; 3 points per QSO with different continent on 20, 15 and 10 m; 6 points per QSO with different continent on 80 or 40 m
Multipliers: Each prefix once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 20 February 2015
E-mail logs to: rtty@cqwpx.com
Upload log at:
http://www.cqwpx.com/logcheck/
Mail logs to: CQ WPX RTTY Contest, PO Box 1877, Los Gatos, CA 95031-1877, USA
Find rules at:
http://www.cqwpxrtty.com/rules.htm

PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint
00:00 - 23:59 UTC 14 February
Mode: PSK31
Bands: 160, 80, 40 m
Classes: OM - QRP or low power; YL - QRP or low power
Max power: LP: 50 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Name, OM or YL and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with OM; 2 points per QSO with YL
Multipliers: Each state, province and DXCC country once only
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 28 February 2015
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: http://hamclubs.info/scorer/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.podxs070.com/o7o-club-sponsored-contests/valentine-sprint

SARL Field Day Contest
10:00 UTC 14 February to 10:00 UTC 15 February
Mode: CW, SSB, Digital
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single-Op Field - QRP or high; Multi-Op Field - QRP or high; Ultra Light Portable; General
Max power: QRP: 5 watts; non-QRP: >5 watts
Exchange: RS(T), number of transmitters, category (see rules) and province (or "DX")
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (see rules)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 22 February 2015
E-mail logs to: zs4bfn@gmail.com
Mail logs to: SARL Field Day Contest, PO Box 12104, Brandhof, 9324, South Africa
Find rules at:
http://www.sarl.org.za/Document_Store/CONT_20150101_SARL_Contest_Manual_2015.pdf

Asia-Pacific Spring CW Sprint
11:00 - 13:00 UTC 14 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op Single Radio
Max power: Asia Pacific: 150 watts; Non-Asia Pacific: maximum legal
Exchange: RST and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: Asia-Pacific: 1 point per QSO; Non-Asia-Pacific: 1 point per QSO with an Asia-Pacific station
Multipliers: Each prefix once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 21 February 2015
E-mail logs to: apsprint@jsfc.org
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt

Dutch PACC Contest
12:00 UTC 14 February to 12:00 UTC 15 February
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: SOAB - CW, SSB or mixed - low or high; SOAB Mixed QRP
Multi-One Mixed (PA Only); Multi-Two Mixed (PA Only); Multi-Unlimited Mixed; Single Op Single Band CW; Single Op Single Band SSB; SWL
Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: PA: RS(T) and province; non-PA: RS(T) and serial no
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with a PA station
Multipliers: PA provinces once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 10 March 2015
E-mail logs to: pacc@dutchpacc.com
Upload log at:
http://server4.veronict.nl:81/WebEditor/app
Mail logs to: PACC Contest Manager, c/o VERON Central Bureau, PO Box 1166, 6801 BD Arnhem, The Netherlands
Find rules at: http://pacc.veron.nl/

KCJ Topband Contest
12:00 UTC 14 February to 12:00 UTC 15 February
Mode: CW

Bands: 160 m Only
Classes: Single Op
Multi-Op
Exchange: JA: RST and Prefecture/District Code; non-JA: RST and Continent Code (AF, AS, EU, NA, OC, SA)
QSO Points: JA: 1 point per QSO with JA station; JA: 5 points per QSO with non-JA station; Non-JA: 1 point per QSO with JA station
Multipliers: Each JA prefecture or district; JA: each continent
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 15 March 2015
E-mail logs to: 2015toptest@kcj-cw.com
Mail logs to: T. Mori JH6IEK, Saida 556-36, Tamamura machi, Sawa gun, Gunma 370-1131, Japan
Find rules at:
http://www.kcj-cw.com/contest/15_toptest_rules_e.pdf

OMISS QSO Party
15:00 UTC 14 February to 15:00 UTC 15 February
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op
Exchange: RS, state, province or DX and OMISS no if member
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with OMISS member; 1 point per QSO with non-member; Bonus: add 500 points to score if mobile for entire contest
Multipliers: Each US state once; Each VE province once; 1 DX country once
Power: < 5 W = x 3, 100 W = x 2, >100 W = x 1
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults x power mult) and bonus points
Submit logs by: March 1, 2015
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at:
http://www.omiss.net/Facelift/qsoElectronic.php
Mail logs to: OMISS QSO Party, John Dean, K0JDD, 4118 Woodlane Drive, Woodbury, MN 55129, USA

Find rules at:
http://www.omiss.net/Facelift/qsoparty.php

New Hampshire QSO Party
16:00 UTC 14 February to 04:00 UTC 15 February and 12:00 - 22:00 UTC 15 February
Mode: CW/Digital, Phone
Bands: All, except WARC
Classes: Single Transmitter - QRP, low or high; Multi Transmitter/Multi-Operator - low or high; Single Transmitter/Multi-Operator - low or high
Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: NH: RS(T) and county; non-NH W/VE: RS(T) and state or province; DX: RS(T) and "DX"
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW/digital QSO; 5 points per phone QSO with a NH bonus point station; 10 points per CW/digital QSO with a NH bonus point station; Bonus Point Stations: W1WQM, W1WMV, W1BST, W1FZ, K1BKE, K1NCR, N1QC, NM1JY and AD1T
Multipliers: NH Stations: Each NH county, each state, each VE province and one DXCC country once; non-NH Stations: Each NH county once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 31 March 2015
E-mail logs to: n1ix@arrl.net
Mail logs to: Dave LeDuc, 26 Tanglewood Dr., Newton, NH 03858, USA
Find rules at:
http://www.w1wqm.org/nhqso/NEW_HAMPSHIRE_QSO_PARTY_RULES.pdf

FISTS Winter Unlimited Sprint
17:00 - 21:00 UTC 14 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: QRP; QRO; Club
Max power: QRO: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: FISTS: RST, state, province or country, first name and FISTS no; non-FISTS: RST, state, province or country, first name and power; Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with FIST member; FIST members: 2 points per QSO with non-FIST member
Multipliers: Each US state and VE province once; Each DXCC country once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 16 March 2015
E-mail logs to: n2ed@fistsna.org
Mail logs to: Ed Wlodarski, N2ED, 3 Shore Rd, Andover, NJ 07821, USA
Find rules at:
http://fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints

RSGB 1st 1,8 MHz Contest
21:00 UTC 14 February to 01:00 UTC 15 February
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 160 m Only
Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB or mixed - UK or overseas - assisted or unassisted
Exchange: UK: RST, serial no and District Code; non-UK: RST and serial no
QSO Points: 3 points per QSO; 5 additional points for first QSO with each UK district; UK stations: 5 additional points for first QSO with each country outside of UK
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 3 March 2015
Upload log at:
http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: RSGB-G3UFY, 77 Bensham Manor Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 7AF, England
Find rules at:
http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/r1st-160 m.shtml

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
02:00 - 04:00 UTC 16 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Band; All Band
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power
Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 22 February 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/autolog.php

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

Get on the **RaDAR**....and GO!

RaDAR GOES GLOBAL

Next Week's Contests

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 18 February

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 18 February and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 19 February

AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 18 February

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW, 20:00 - 21:30 UTC 19 February

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 20 February

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 20 February

NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 20 February

ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW, 00:00 UTC 21 February to 24:00 UTC 22 February

REF SSB Contest, 06:00 UTC 21 February to 18:00 UTC 22 February

SARL Youth Sprint, 08:00 - 10:00 UTC 21 February

Feld Hell Sprint, 20:00 - 21:59 UTC 21 February

Russian PSK WW Contest, 21:00 UTC 21 February to 21:00 UTC 22 February

High Speed Club CW Contest, 09:00 - 11:00 UTC and 15:00 - 17:00 UTC 22 February

SARL Digital Contest, 13:00 - 16:00 UTC 22 February

CQC Winter QSO Sprint, 01:00 - 02:59 UTC 23 February

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL DX Newsletter, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC News, DxCoffee and the Islands, Castles & Portable Operations Bulletin